

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Department of Health

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Risk of Coronavirus in Stamford Remains Low

STAMFORD, Conn. — On January 30th the Center of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported the immediate risk to the United States for infection of the respiratory illness originating in China — known as the "Coronavirus" or 2019-nCoV — is low. The City of Stamford's Department of Health is working with the State of Connecticut's Department of Public Health (DPH) to monitor the outbreak and will adjust public health recommendations based on direction from the CDC and the DPH.

The CDC believes the immediate risk to the U.S. continues to be low at this time. However, the risk of transmission will depend on the virus' spread and how it affects individuals diagnosed with the virus. As of January 30, there are no infections of the Coronavirus in Connecticut.

On January 30, the CDC reported person-to-person spread was documented for the first time in the United States. At this time, the Coronavirus is NOT spreading in the United States. The CDC continues to monitor the situation globally, and in the United States, while working with local health departments to implement control measures.

What can you do to help Stamford's Health Department respond to this emerging threat?

- The CDC recommends residents get a flu vaccine. The City of Stamford Department of Health will be holding a free influenza vaccination clinic for Stamford residents Saturday February 1, 2020 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Stamford Government Center, 6th floor.
- Residents should take everyday preventive actions to stop the spread of germs, such as:
 - o Use a tissue to cover your nose or mouth when coughing or sneezing.
 - o Dispose of tissues in a waste receptacle.
 - Wash hands with soap and water or use a hand sanitizer.
 - o If your doctor has prescribed flu antivirals, take them as prescribed.
- Stay home when sick and keep your children out of school when sick.
- Healthcare providers should be on the lookout for people who recently traveled from China and present with fever and respiratory symptoms.

- Healthcare providers caring for a 2019-nCoV patient, should take care of their own health and follow recommended infection control procedures.
- Residents with the 2019-nCoV infection should follow CDC's guidance on how to reduce the risk of spreading the illness to others.
- People who have had contact with someone infected with 2019-nCoV and develop symptoms, contact your healthcare provider, and tell them about your symptoms and your exposure to a 2019-nCoV patient.

For more information you may visit the CDC website at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html

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